MR. K. GEORGE (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): The Government are not aware.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know from the member who has answered, whether he represents Government or the Land Revenue Department in answering this question?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Government.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know whether the Government are aware that a petition was forwared by the member representing Nedumangad constituency?

PRESIDENT: The member has already stated that he is not aware.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know, with reference to the answer to part (*f*), what was the matter that was duly enquired into?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): A petition was received from two people to the effect that two *anjili* trees were cut down from *poramboke* lands. That was enquired into by the Division Peishkar, Trivandrum, who found the allegations to be untrue.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know whether the Land Revenue Commissioner has made any enquiries about it?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): No.

Wet lands inside the Forest Reserves in Nedumangad, Kottarakara, etc.

143 *MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the names and extent of *Karikkakams* (wet lands) that lie inside the forest reserves in the Nedumangad, Kottarakara, Chirayinkil and Neyyattinkara taluks and the respective *pakuthies* in which they lie;

(*b*) the purpose for which the above wet lands are kept unregistered inside the reserve;

(*c*) how many acres of the above wet lands have been ordered to be disafforested and registered; and

(*d*) what objection there is in ordering disafforestation and registry of the remaining portions of the wet lands?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The information is not available.

(*b*), (*c*) and (*d*). In view of the answer to part (*a*), these questions do not arise.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know from the member whether there are wet lands inside the reserve forests?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): Yes.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know from the member whether any information is available with regard to them?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): Information is not available.

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MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know the reason why information is not available? Is it because it has not been collected?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): The Forest Department is aware of the existence of the wet lands inside the reserves.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Then may I know the reason why the information was not collected?

MR T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): It was not considered necessary.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know why the specific question put for this purpose has not been answered?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): Government did not consider it necessary to get the information with elaborate details.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know the approximate area of the wet lands existing in the Nedumangad, Kottarakara, Chirayinkil and Neyyattinkgra taluks inside the forest reserves?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): I claim notice.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know whether the Government have answered that the information is not available because the information was not really available?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): Yes.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know whether Government attempted to get the information?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): No.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know why the Government have not attempted to get the information?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): Because they did not consider it necessary.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know the reason that weighed with Government in thinking that the information is unnecessary?

PRESIDENT: Government thought so.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know whether the Government are aware of the Swampy Areas Committee Report?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): Yes.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know whether any information regarding this matter is contained in that report?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): Yes.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): In view of that, may I know why information on this question is not available to Government?

MR. T C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): The information there only relates to swampy areas, and not about all the wet lands in the forest area.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know whether, with regard to the specific areas mentioned in this question, there is any information contained in the Swampy Areas Committee Report?

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MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): If the member refers to the reports regarding, the taluks of Kottarakara and Nedumangad, there is information.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): Is it in view of that report that the answer is given that the information is not available ?

MR T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): The question is about the extent of wet lands that lie in the reserve forests in Neyyattinkara, Nedumangad, Kottarakara and Chirayinkil and the answer is I have no information.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know whether Government appointed a Swampy Areas Committee ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): Yes.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know whether Government thought it necessary to take any action on that report ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): Necessary action has been taken.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know what action has been taken ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): Some of the areas have been disafforested.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): Mry I know what specific action has been taken by Government with regard to the recommendations of the Swampy Areas Committee? I take it the recommendation of the committee was not for disafforestation. They framed comprehensive recommendation with regard to all swampy areas in the reserve forests.

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): That was also one of their recomendations.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know what action has been taken ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): I claim notice.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): Is it the position of Government that, because the information regarding Swampy Areas Committee Report was not available that they did not try to collect information ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): I am not able to understand the question.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): Is it the position of Government that because they did not try to collect information in regard to the second set of taluks *viz.*, Chirayinkil and Neyyattinkara, that it is answered that information regarding Nedumangad and Kottarakara was not available ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): Government did not consider it necessary to collect detailed information regarding the names and extent of the wet lands that lie inside the reserve forests.

MR E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): I wish to know whether it is the policy of Government that, when once questions are admitted it is within their discretion to withhold information or not trying to get information as required by the question ?

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PRESIDENT : Policy is not a supplementary question.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*) : May I know why Government did not care to supply information asked for, though it was an admitted question ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : Government did not consider it necessary to collect all the detailed information.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*) : May I know whether any area has been disafforested since the submission of the report of the Swampy Areas Committee ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : Yes.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*) : Can the member now tell me the extent of the area in the Nedumangad taluk which was disafforested ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : About 50 acres.

Cattle pound at Kattakada.

144 ✻**MR. S. J. NAIR** (*Nedumangad*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether there was any sanction at any time before this to start a pound at Kattakada :

(*b*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the affirmative, what action has been taken to start the sanctioned pound : and

(*c*) why the delay was caused to start it ?

MR K. GEORGE (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) :

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) and (*c*) The pound was not started as the people did not put up and hand over the building for the purpose as agreed to by them.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : May I know whether it is usual that, if the people put up the necessary building for the purpose, Government will sanction the starting of a cattle pound ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : Usually it is not so. In particular cases when people agree to put up the building, Government accept the offer and accord the necessary sanction.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : May I know whether the Government realise the necessity of having a cattle pound at Kattakada ?

PRESIDENT : That is a matter of opinion.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*) : May I know what is the general practice adopted by Government in starting a cattle pound ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : There is no such general practice. Sometimes when people apply, Government ask them whether they will provide the necessary building. If they agree to do it, then sanction is given. In the particular case, the people agreed to provide the building, but they did not carry out the promise.

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